



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES October 2, 2008

Council Members, Liaisons & Committee Participants Present

Bill Engler (Chair), Kati Bates, George Evanoff, Paul Herrmann, Bernadine Hoffman, Marilyn Johnson, Doyle Meredith, Bernadette Polley, Elizabeth Banta, John Kinkel (on behalf of Lynn Larson), John Linda

Council Members Not Present

Sharon McKinley

Council Staff Present

Melanie Starns, Cathy De Lisa, Dan Plumhoff, Sylvia Chuka

Guests Present

Phillip Cardona, Jay Crosby, Ruth Romano

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Bill Engler called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m., and a welcome and introduction period followed. Minutes from the September 4, 2008 meeting were reviewed. *Marilyn Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Kati Bates seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Updates

LPCC Recommendation to GACA

Executive Director Melanie Starns noted that the Council's letter to Governor Napolitano (requesting that she take a public stance against Proposition 200, and allow the Council to do the same) has been submitted, and that she will follow up on its status accordingly.

2008 Ballot Initiatives

Deputy Director Cathy De Lisa provided an overview of the final eight propositions on the 2008 Arizona General Election Ballot to include the following (as listed by their Ballot Numbers and Short Titles):

- Proposition 100 – "Protect Our Homes"
- Proposition 101 – "Medical Choice for Arizona"
- Proposition 102 – "Marriage"
- Proposition 105 – "Majority Rules – Let the People Decide"

- Proposition 200 – “Payday Loan Reform Act
- Proposition 201 – “Homeowners’ Bill of Rights Committee
- Proposition 202 – “Stop Illegal Hiring”
- Proposition 300 – “State Legislator’s Salaries”

A discussion ensued, and Committee members shared information about individual outreach efforts pertaining to Proposition 200 within their communities. Copies of Ms. De Lisa’s presentational handouts are available through the Council Office.

Senior Action Days Discussion

Council Chair Paul Herrmann provided a brief overview of the 2007 Senior Action Days events, specifically noting the events’ success in engaging older Arizonans throughout the state, and providing seniors with the forums with which to bring their issues to light. Mr. Herrmann, Council Chair, also stated that as in 2007, the upcoming 2009 Senior Action Days events will be funded by monies raised through donations to the Council, and that no state funds will be used. Moreover, Mr. Herrmann noted that the Council should consider implementing additional cost-cutting measures such as eliminating the luncheon portion of the events, and partnering with organizations throughout the aging network.

Additionally, Ms. Starns expressed the budgetary concerns of the Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), and she conveyed their proposal that the Council hold a single “Senior Action Day” at the State Capitol in lieu of the multiple events hosted locally in 2007. Committee Chair Bill Engler opened the floor for discussion, and a lively dialogue ensued. The Committee discussed several potential formats for the events, and carefully considered the request/input from the AAA directors. After much discussion, a compromise was determined to be the best approach, with a single senior action day reception at the Capitol, plus the hosting of local events, as had occurred in 2007. The committee determined this would be the most effective way to achieve the desired level of outreach to older Arizonans across the state, while considering and addressing the AAAs’ concern/desire to meet more directly with their legislators. Thus, the Committee decided that they will propose hosting a number of regional events around the state as feasible in accordance with budgetary restraints and one event at the State Capitol Complex specifically for the AAAs and their advocates, and that they will invite legislators to both.

Specifically, Mr. Herrmann and Mr. Engler asked staff to arrange a conference call with the AAA Association leadership to address their concerns and discuss the coordination of these events. Furthermore, the Committee noted that the locations of the events should be coordinated in such a way as to provide as many regions of the State as possible with the opportunity to voice their concerns to the Council and to their local legislators. Thus, the Committee proposed the following potential locations:

- Yuma
- Flagstaff
- Sierra Vista
- North West Phoenix
- Tucson/Pima County

- Casa Grande
- The State Capitol Complex

Other Updates, New Business, & Announcements

No updates, new business, or announcements.

Action Items

- Ms. Starns will follow up on the status of the Council's letter to Governor Napolitano requesting that she take a public stand on Proposition 200, and allow the Council to do the same.
- Council Chair Paul Herrmann and Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee Chair Bill Engler will coordinate a conference call with the AAA Directors to address their concerns and discuss the coordination of the seven 2009 Senior Action Days events.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair Bill Engler at 11:19 a.m.

Next Meeting:

The next Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee meeting will be November 6, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. in the State Executive Tower, Second Floor Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public.